

REMARKS

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1. (Original) In an apparatus including a display, a method of operation comprising:
displaying first execution results of a first plurality of applications in a first plane of a metaphoric desktop; and
displaying second execution results of a second plurality of applications in a second plane of the metaphoric desktop.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second plurality of applications are on-line applications, and the method further comprises monitoring for the apparatus being connected on-line.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said method further comprises morphing from said first plane of the metaphoric desktop to the second plane of the metaphoric desktop in response to detection of a predetermined event.
4. (Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein said morphing comprises animating a 180 degree rotation of the metaphoric desktop over a selected one of a diagonal axis, a vertical axis and a horizontal axis.
5. (Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein said morphing comprises animating a plurality of 180 degree rotations of a plurality of portions of the metaphoric desktop over a selected one of a plurality of corresponding vertical axes and a plurality of corresponding horizontal axes.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first and second planes are front and back planes of the metaphoric desktop.
7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein

11. ~~said displaying of first execution results of the first plurality of applications in a first plane of a metaphoric desktop comprises storing pictorial representations of said first execution results into a standard display screen buffer by a graphics services; and~~

~~said displaying of second execution results of the second plurality of applications in a second plane of the metaphoric desktop comprises redirecting said graphics service to store pictorial representations of said first execution results of said first plurality of applications to an alternate display screen buffer, and storing pictorial representations of said second execution results of said second plurality of applications into said standard display screen buffer.~~

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein

~~said second plurality of applications are on-line applications; and~~

~~said redirecting of said graphics service to store pictorial representations of said first execution results of said first plurality of applications to an alternate display screen buffer, and subsequent storing of pictorial representations of said second execution results of said second plurality of applications into said standard display screen buffer, are initially performed in response to said apparatus being connected on-line.~~

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the method further comprises resuming said storing of pictorial representations of said first execution results of said first plurality of applications to said standard display screen buffer by said graphics service.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said resumption are performed in response to a user request to return to said first plane of said metaphoric desktop.

11. (Original) An apparatus comprising

storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to display first execution results of a first plurality of applications in a first plane of a metaphoric desktop, and second execution results of a second plurality of applications in a second plane of the metaphoric desktop; and

a processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said second plurality of applications are on-line applications, and the programming instructions are further designed to monitor for the apparatus being connected on-line.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said programming instructions are further designed to morph from said first plane of the metaphoric desktop to the second plane of the metaphoric desktop in response to detection of a predetermined event.

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14. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 134, wherein said programming instructions are designed to effectuate said morphing by animating a 180 degree rotation of the metaphoric desktop over a selected one of a diagonal axis, a vertical axis and a horizontal axis.

15. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 134, wherein said programming instructions are designed to effectuate said morphing by animating a plurality of 180 degree rotations of a plurality of portions of the metaphoric desktop over a selected one of a plurality of corresponding vertical axes and a plurality of corresponding horizontal axes.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said first and second planes are front and back planes of the metaphoric desktop.

17. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said programming instructions are designed to effectuate

 said displaying of first execution results of the first plurality of applications in a first plane of a metaphoric desktop by storing pictorial representations of said first execution results into a standard display screen buffer by a graphics services, and

 said displaying of second execution results of the second plurality of applications in a second plane of the metaphoric desktop by redirecting said graphics service to

store pictorial representations of said first execution results of said first plurality of applications to an alternate display screen buffer, and storing pictorial representations of said second execution results of said second plurality of applications into said standard display screen buffer.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein
said second plurality of applications are on-line applications; and
said programming instructions are designed to initially perform said redirecting of said graphics service to store pictorial representations of said first execution results of said first plurality of applications to an alternate display screen buffer, and subsequent storing of pictorial representations of said second execution results of said second plurality of applications into said standard display screen buffer, in response to said apparatus being connected on-line.

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19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the programming instructions are further designed to resume said storing of pictorial representations of said first execution results of said first plurality of applications to said standard display screen buffer by said graphics service.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said programming instructions are designed to perform said resumption in response to a user request to return to said first plane of said metaphoric desktop.

✓ 21. (Original) A graphical user interface comprising:
a metaphoric desktop having a first and a second plane;
the first plane being used to display execution results of a first plurality of applications; and
the second plane being used to display execution results of a second plurality of applications.

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22. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 21, wherein the graphical user interface further includes the metaphoric desktop morphing from a selected one of the first and second planes to the other.

23. (Amended) The graphical user interface of claim 221, wherein said morphing comprises a 180 degree rotation of the metaphoric desktop over a selected one of a diagonal axis, a vertical axis and a horizontal axis.

24. (Amended) The graphical user interface of claim 221, wherein said morphing comprises a plurality of 180 degree rotations of a plurality of portions of the metaphoric desktop over a selected one of a plurality of corresponding vertical axes and a plurality of corresponding horizontal axes.

REMARKS

Summary of Examiner's Action

In the subject office action, the Examiner

- objected to claims 7-10 and 17-20 for various informalities,
- rejected claims 4-5, 14-15, 23 and 24 under 35 USC 112,
- rejected claims 1, 3-6, 11, 13-16 and 21-24 under 35 USC 102(b) as being fully anticipated by Horvitz et al (USP 5,880,733), and
- rejected claims 2, 7-10, 12, and 17-20 under 35 USC 103 in view of Horvitz.

Objections against claims 7-10 and 17-20 & Rejections under 35 USC 112

against claims 4-5, 14-15, 23 and 24

In response, Applicant has amended claims 7 and 17 to correct the informalities, and amended claims 4-5, 14-15, 23 and 24 to correct the antecedent issues.

All amendments are fully supported by the original disclosures. No new matters have been introduced. Further, all amendments are made to correct informalities and antecedent issues. None are made for the purpose of overcoming the prior art.

Rejections against claims 1, 3-6, 11, 13-16 and 21-24 under 35 USC 102(b) based on Horvitz ('733)

In response, Applicant traverses the Examiner's rejections.

Claim 1 recites in pertinent parts

displaying first execution results of a first plurality of applications in ***a first plane of a metaphoric desktop***; and

displaying second execution results of a second plurality of applications in ***a second plane of the metaphoric desktop***. (emphasis added).

It is well settled that claim terms are to be construed in accordance with their plain meaning as understood by those ordinarily skilled in the art. The term "***metaphoric desktop***" is well understood by those ordinarily skilled in the art to refer to the emulation of a ***real desktop***, as popularized by the ***desktop metaphor*** of the

Windows operating system, available from Microsoft of Redmond, WA, where the display screen correlates to a ***metaphoric desktop***.

For example, the popular website “whatis.com” offers the following explanation for the term “***desktop***” - “Using an office metaphor, a desktop is a computer display area that represents ...a real desktop ...” (underline added).

In contrast, Horvitz teaches a GUI interface with the display screen correlating to a ***3-D metaphoric workspace*** that has length, width and height. See e.g. the abstract, where Horvitz clearly stated “*The present invention provides a 3-D perspective, virtual workspace ...*”. This clear teaching can also be found and reaffirmed in e.g. col. 3, lines 1-5, and col. 6, lines 35-38.

As well understood by those ordinarily skilled in the art, the term “***3-D metaphoric workspace***” refers to ***emulation of a room***, such as a user's office. See e.g. the title of the third “Other Publications” listed in the front page of Horvitz, “Rooms: The Use of Multiple Virtual Workspace to Reduce Space Content in a Window-Based Graphical User Interface” (underline added).

Thus, any one ordinarily skilled in the art would read Horvitz as emulating a room, such as one's office, having length, width and height.

Accordingly, Horvitz does not teach a GUI that employs a ***metaphoric desktop***. Therefore, regardless what Horvitz teaches with respect to displaying execution results in planes of the ***3-D virtual workspace***, it does not teach the required display of execution results in a plane of a ***metaphoric desktop***.

Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Horvitz.

Claims 11 and 21 contain in substance the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claims 11 and 21 are patentable over Horvitz.

Claims 3-6, 13-16 and 22-24 depend on claims 1, 11 and 21 respectively, incorporating their limitations. Thus, for at least the same reasons, claims 3-6, 13-16 and 22-24 are patentable over Horvitz.

103 rejections against claims 2, 7-10, 12, and 17-20

Claims 2, 7-10, 12, and 17-20 depend on claims 1 and 11 respectively, incorporating their limitations. Thus, for at least the same reasons, claims 2, 7-10, 12, and 17-20 are not obvious, and patentable over Horvitz.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-24 are in condition for allowance, and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt

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